

## Message Text

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:ATHOMPSON

APPROVED BY EUR:JAARMITAGE

EUR/EE:TPHDUNLOP

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R 152332Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 194652

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (FORD, GERALD R.), PFOR, MASS, YO, US

SUBJECT: GOY VIEWS ON PRESIDENT'S VISIT; RELATED  
-- MATTERS

1. SUMMARY: IN CALL ON ARMITAGE AUG 12 YUGOSLAV CHARGE PETKOVIC GAVE GOY ASSESSMENT THAT PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO BELGRADE WAS "GREAT SUCCESS," MENTIONING IMPORTANCE OF PRESIDENT'S BRINGING UP ECONOMIC AND MILITARY BILATERAL RELATIONS. PETKOVIC UNDERTOOK TO GET YUGOSLAV POLITICAL PEOPLE WORKING WITH THEIR MILITARY COLLEAGUES TO GIVE US ROUGH LIST OF THEIR PRIORITIES ON BUYING MILITARY EQUIPMENT. HE SAID YUGOSLAVS WOULD WORK AT LIMA MEETING OF GROUP OF 77 TO DAMP DOWN ANY MOVES TO EXPEL/SUSPEND ISRAEL FROM UN. END SUMMARY

2. PETKOVIC TOOK UP WITH ACTING ASSISTANT SECRETARY ARMITAGE VISIT OF PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY TO BELGRADE, CALLING IT GREAT SUCCESS. HE SAID IT WAS "IMPORTANT" THAT US PRESIDENT HAD BROUGHT UP BOTH ECONOMIC AND MILITARY RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES. ARMITAGE SAID IT WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR US TO HAVE SOME SENSE OF PRIORITIES YUGOSLAVS  
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ATTRIBUTE TO THEIR VARIOUS REQUESTS TO PURCHASE MILITARY

EQUIPMENT. WE NEED TO FOCUS ON PRIORITY ITEMS -- INCLUDING

SOME LESS HIGHLY SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT WHICH COULD BE  
ACTED ON FIRST -- IF WE ARE GOING TO BE ABLE TO FOLLOW  
THROUGH EFFECTIVELY ON WHAT PRESIDENT HAD SAID IN  
BELGRADE ABOUT MILITARY COOPERATION, ARMITAGE CONTINUED.  
PETKOVIC AGREED THIS WAS NECESSARY. COULD YUGOSLAV  
POLITICAL PEOPLE WORK OUT WITH JNA COLLEAGUES ROUGH  
LIST OF SUCH PRIORITIES? PETKOVIC UNDERTOOK TO DO SO  
AND TO BE BACK IN TOUCH. PETKOVIC DID MAKE CLEAR THAT  
PRIMARY GOY INTEREST WAS IN ELECTRONIC TECHNOLOGY --  
NEW YUGOSLAV DEF ATT IN WASHINGTON WOULD BE COMMUNICA-  
TIONS EXPERT, HE NOTED.

3. ARMITAGE SAID THAT IN COMPARISON WITH BILATERAL MILI-  
TARY RELATIONS IT WAS LESS APPARENT WHERE FOCUS WAS IN  
ECONOMIC MATTERS DISCUSSED IN BELGRADE. PRESIDENT'S  
STATEMENT ABOUT DOING WHAT HE COULD TO HELP ECONOMIC  
COOPERATION REFERRED PARTICULARLY TO PARTICIPATION OF  
PRIVATE US CAPITAL IN US MARKET. ARMITAGE OBSERVED IT  
WOULD BE HELPFUL FOR YUGOSLAVS TO LET US KNOW WHERE OPPOR-  
TUNITIES EXIST FOR PRIVATE AMERICAN CAPITAL TO COME IN  
-- SPECIFICALLY, WHAT FACILITATIVE ROLE YUGOSLAVS THOUGHT  
USG COULD PLAY REGARDING PRIVATE INVESTMENT.

4. PETKOVIC APPRECIATED FACT THAT GOY GIVEN THOROUGH  
BRIEFING ON MIDDLE EAST IN BELGRADE TALKS. ARMITAGE UN-  
DERLINED USG'S DEEP CONCERN OVER STORIES ABOUT MOVES TO  
SUSPEND/EXPEL ISRAEL FROM UN. PETKOVIC AGREED THAT TITO  
AND MINIC HAD ACCEPTED DURING BELGRADE MEETINGS US VIEW  
THAT ANY SUCH MOVE WOULD HAVE VERY SERIOUS CONSEQUENCES.  
PETKOVIC SAID FURTHER THAT YUGOSLAV DELEGATION -- HEADED  
BY MINIC -- AT LIMA CONFERENCE WOULD WORK TOWARD DAMPING  
DOWN SUCH A MOVE AMONG SOME OF MORE EXTREME NONALIGNED,  
LIKE ALGERIA. YUGOSLAVS WANTED TO WORK OUT COMPRO-  
MISES FROM POSITIONS OF CONFRONTATION TAKEN BY SOME OF  
EXTREME MEMBERS. ONLY WAY TO GET AHEAD IN CONTEMPORARY  
TIMES, PARTICULARLY IN WAKE EUROPEAN SECURITY CONFERENCE,  
WAS THROUGH COOPERATION, NOT CONFRONTATION.

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5. ARMITAGE DISCUSSED WITH PETKOVIC INTERNATIONAL ECO-  
NOMIC COOPERATION, ANOTHER BELGRADE TOPIC. FOCUS AT  
LIMA AND AT SPECIAL SESSION SHOULD BE ON THE VERY REAL  
PROBLEMS, HE SAID, NOT ON SLOGANEERING ABOUT NEW ECONOMIC  
ORDER VERSUS EXISTING ORDER. EACH COUNTRY'S ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT WILL DEPEND FIRST OF ALL ON ITS OWN EFFORTS  
AND NOT SOLELY ON AID FROM OTHER NATIONS. PETKOVIC  
CLAIMED GOY UNDERSTOOD PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

WAS NOT ONE OF WORDS.

6. ON CSCE, GOY FOUND RESULTS BETTER THAN GENERALLY EXPECTED, PETKOVIC SAID. HE HOPED THIS IMPRESSION WAS SHARED IN US, DESPITE AMERICAN PRESS CRITICISM OF CONFERENCE. PETKOVIC SAID BENEFITS OF CSCE WERE NOT LIMITED TO A FEW BUT WERE FOR EVERYONE. SISCO

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